

1 Amendments to the claims

2 The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of
3 claims in the application:
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5 1. (Currently Amended) A method of regionalizing a manufactured device
6 and consumable items utilized by the device, the device having an associated
7 memory and the consumable items each having an information retaining
8 mechanism, ~~the manufactured device initially in a non-regionalized condition,~~ the
method comprising the steps of:

9 a) for each consumable item distributed within a region, configuring the
10 information retaining mechanism in a manner which uniquely identifies the region;
11 ~~then~~

12 b) installing in the device a consumable item having an information retaining
13 mechanism configured for the region; ~~and then~~

14 c) transferring the region identification information from the consumable item
15 information retaining mechanism to the memory associated with the device and
16 storing the information therein; and

17 d) if the device is in a non-regionalized condition, configuring the device in a
18 regionalized condition based on the transferred region identification information
19 stored in the memory.

20 2. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
21 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 1, wherein the memory associated
22 with the device is an electronic memory within the device.
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1 3. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
2 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 2, wherein the information retaining
3 mechanism of each of the consumable items is an electronic memory, the step of
4 configuring the information retaining mechanism in a manner which uniquely
5 identifies the region comprises writing the region identification information to the
6 electronic memory, and the step of transferring region identification information from
7 the consumable item to the electronic memory within the device comprises
8 electronically reading the information from the electronic memory of the consumable
9 item and electronically writing the information to the electronic memory within the
10 device.

11 4. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
12 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 3, wherein the device further has
13 an associated wireless communications link in data communication with the
14 associated memory and the consumable items each further comprise a wireless
15 communications link in data communication with the electronic memory, and
16 electronically reading the information from the electronic memory of the consumable
17 is accomplished over the wireless links.

18 5. (Canceled).

19 6. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
20 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 3, wherein electronically reading
21 the information from the electronic memory of the consumable is accomplished over
22 a wireless link.

23 7. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
24 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 1, wherein the device further
25 comprises a printer and the consumable items further comprise printer consumables.

8. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 7, wherein the printer is an ink jet
printer and the printer consumables are ink jet cartridges.

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2 9. (Currently Amended) A method of regionalizing a manufactured device
3 and consumable items utilized by the device, the device having an associated
4 memory and an associated wireless communications link in data communication with
5 the associated memory, and the consumable items each having an electronic
6 memory component and a wireless communications link in data communication with
7 the electronic memory component, ~~the manufactured device initially in a non-~~
~~regionalized condition~~, the method comprising the steps of:

8 a) for each consumable item distributed within a region, configuring the
9 electronic memory component in a manner which uniquely identifies the region; ~~then~~

10 b) installing in the device a consumable item having a memory component
11 configured for the region; ~~and then~~

12 c) transferring the region identification information from the consumable item
13 electronic memory component over the wireless communication link[[s]] to the
14 memory associated with the device and storing the information therein; and

15 d) if the device is in a non-regionalized condition, configuring the device in a
regionalized condition based on the transferred region identification information
stored in the memory.

16 10. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
17 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 9, wherein the device further
18 comprises a printer and the consumable items further comprise printer consumables.

19 11. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
20 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 10, wherein the printer is an ink jet
21 printer and the printer consumables are ink jet cartridges.
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1 12. (Currently Amended) A method of regionalizing a manufactured device
2 and consumable items utilized by the device, the device having an associated
3 memory and the consumable items each having an information retaining
4 mechanism, ~~the manufactured device initially in a non-regionalized condition~~, the
method comprising the steps of:

5 a) for each consumable item distributed within a region, configuring the
6 information retaining mechanism in a manner which uniquely identifies the region;
7 ~~then~~

8 b) installing in the device a consumable item having an information retaining
9 mechanism configured for the region; ~~then~~

10 c) transferring the region identification information from the consumable item
11 information retaining mechanism to the memory associated with the device and
12 storing the information therein

13 d) if the device is in a non-regionalized condition, then configuring the device
in a regionalized condition based on the transferred region identification information
stored in the memory; and

14 for subsequent consumable item installed in the device,

15 ~~[[d)]]~~ e) testing the information retaining mechanism of the subsequently
16 installed consumable item to determine the region identification information
17 contained therein; ~~then~~

18 ~~[[e)]]~~ f) comparing the region identification of the subsequently installed
19 consumable with the region identification stored in memory, and ~~then~~

20 ~~[[f)]]~~ g) if the region identifications do not match, declining the subsequently
21 installed consumable.

22 13. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
23 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 12, wherein the memory
24 associated with the device is an electronic memory within the device.
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1 14. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
2 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 13, wherein the information
3 retaining mechanism of each of the consumable items is an electronic memory, the
4 step of configuring the information retaining mechanism in a manner which uniquely
5 identifies the region comprises writing the region identification information to the
6 electronic memory, and the step of transferring region identification information from
7 the consumable item to the electronic memory within the device comprises
8 electronically reading the information from the electronic memory of the consumable
9 item and electronically writing the information to the electronic memory within the
10 device.

11 15. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
12 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 14, wherein the device further has
13 an associated wireless communications link in data communication with the
14 associated memory and the consumable items each further comprise a wireless
15 communications link in data communication with the electronic memory, and
16 electronically reading the information from the electronic memory of the consumable
17 is accomplished over the wireless links.

18 16. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
19 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 12, wherein the information
20 retaining mechanism of each of the consumable items is an electronic memory, the
21 step of configuring the information retaining mechanism in a manner which uniquely
22 identifies the region comprises writing the region identification information to the
23 electronic memory, and the step of transferring region identification information from
24 the consumable item to the electronic memory within the device includes
25 electronically reading the information from the electronic memory of the consumable
item.

1 17. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
2 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 16, wherein the device further has
3 an associated wireless communications link in data communication with the
4 associated memory and the consumable items each further comprise a wireless
5 communications link in data communication with the electronic memory, and
6 electronically reading the information from the electronic memory of the consumable
is accomplished over the wireless links.

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8 18. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
9 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 12, wherein the device has an
10 associated user interface allowing messages to be displayed to a user and also
11 allowing responses to be input by the user, and the step of declining the consumable
12 comprises notifying the device user of an incompatibility and requiring a specific
response to be input by the user.

13 19. (Currently Amended) A method of regionalizing a manufactured device
14 and consumable items utilized by the device, the device having an associated
15 memory and an associated user interface for receiving user input and displaying
16 output, and the consumable items each having an information retaining mechanism,
17 ~~the manufactured device initially in a non-regionalized condition~~, the method
comprising the steps of:

18 a) for each consumable item distributed within a region, configuring the
19 information retaining mechanism in a manner which uniquely identifies the region;
20 ~~then~~

21 b) installing in the device a consumable item having an information retaining
22 mechanism configured for the region; ~~and then~~

23 c) transferring the region identification information from the consumable item
24 information retaining mechanism to the memory associated with the device and
25 storing the information therein; and

d) if the device is in a non-regionalized condition, configuring the device in a
regionalized condition based on the transferred region identification information
stored in the memory.

1 20. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
2 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 19, wherein the associated user
3 interface for receiving user input and displaying output is operable to receive input
4 and display out in a plurality of natural languages, and wherein the language used
5 for input and output is selected based upon the region identification information
6 stored in memory.

7 21. (Currently Amended) A method of regionalizing a manufactured device
8 and consumable items utilized by the device, the device having an associated
9 memory and the consumable items each having an information retaining
10 mechanism, ~~the manufactured device initially in a non-regionalized condition~~, the
11 method comprising the steps of:

12 a) providing for distribution within the region consumable items each having
13 the information retaining mechanism configured in a manner which uniquely
14 identifies the region; ~~then~~

15 b) installing in the device a consumable item having an information retaining
16 mechanism configured for the region; ~~and then~~

17 c) transferring the region identification information from the consumable item
18 information retaining mechanism to the memory associated with the device and
19 storing the information therein; and

20 d) if the device is in a non-regionalized condition, configuring the device in a
21 regionalized condition based on the transferred region identification information
22 stored in the memory.

23 22. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
24 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 21, wherein the memory
25 associated with the device is an electronic memory within the device.

1 23. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
2 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 22, wherein the information
3 retaining mechanism of each of the consumable items is an electronic memory, the
4 step of configuring the information retaining mechanism in a manner which uniquely
5 identifies the region comprises writing the region identification information to the
6 electronic memory, and the step of transferring region identification information from
7 the consumable item to the electronic memory within the device comprises
8 electronically reading the information from the electronic memory of the consumable
9 item and electronically writing the information to the electronic memory within the
10 device.

11 24. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
12 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 23, wherein the device further has
13 an associated wireless communications link in data communication with the
14 associated memory and the consumable items each further comprise a wireless
15 communications link in data communication with the electronic memory, and
16 electronically reading the information from the electronic memory of the consumable
17 is accomplished over the wireless links.

18 25. (Canceled).

19 26. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
20 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 23, wherein electronically reading
21 the information from the electronic memory of the consumable is accomplished over
22 a wireless link.

23 27. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
24 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 21, wherein the device further
25 comprises a printer and the consumable items further comprise printer consumables.

28. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 27, wherein the printer is an ink jet
printer and the printer consumables are ink jet cartridges.

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2 29. (Currently Amended) A method of regionalizing a manufactured device
3 and consumable items utilized by the device, the device having an associated
4 memory and an associated wireless communications link in data communication with
5 the associated memory, and the consumable items each having an electronic
6 memory component and a wireless communications link in data communication with
7 the electronic memory component, ~~the manufactured device initially in a non-~~
~~regionalized condition~~, the method comprising the steps of:

8 a) providing for distribution within the region consumable items each having
9 the electronic memory component configured in a manner which uniquely identifies
10 the region; then

11 b) installing in the device a consumable item having a memory component
12 configured for the region; and then

13 c) transferring the region identification information from the consumable item
14 electronic memory component over the wireless communication links to the memory
15 associated with the device and storing the information therein; and

16 d) if the device is in a non-regionalized condition, configuring the device in a
regionalized condition based on the transferred region identification information
stored in the memory.

17 30. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
18 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 29, wherein the device further
19 comprises a printer and the consumable items further comprise printer consumables.

20 31. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
21 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 30, wherein the printer is an ink jet
22 printer and the printer consumables are ink jet cartridges.
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32. (Currently Amended) A method of regionalizing a manufactured device and consumable items utilized by the device, the device having an associated memory and the consumable items each having an information retaining mechanism, ~~the manufactured device initially in a non-regionalized condition~~, the method comprising the steps of:

a) providing for distribution within the region consumable items each having the information retaining mechanism configured in a manner which uniquely identifies the region; ~~then~~

b) installing in the device a consumable item having an information retaining mechanism configured for the region; ~~then~~

c) transferring the region identification information from the consumable item information retaining mechanism to the memory associated with the device and storing the information therein;

d) if the device is in a non-regionalized condition, configuring the device in a regionalized condition based on the transferred region identification information stored in the memory; and

for subsequent consumable item installed in the device,

e) [[d)]] testing the information retaining mechanism of the subsequently installed consumable item to determine the region identification information contained therein; ~~then~~

f) [[e)]] comparing the region identification of the subsequently installed consumable with the region identification stored in memory, and ~~then~~

g) [[f)]] if the region identifications do not match, declining the subsequently installed consumable.

33. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 32, wherein the memory associated with the device is an electronic memory within the device.

1 34. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
2 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 33, wherein the information
3 retaining mechanism of each of the consumable items is an electronic memory, the
4 step of configuring the information retaining mechanism in a manner which uniquely
5 identifies the region comprises writing the region identification information to the
6 electronic memory, and the step of transferring region identification information from
7 the consumable item to the electronic memory within the device comprises
8 electronically reading the information from the electronic memory of the consumable
9 item and electronically writing the information to the electronic memory within the
10 device.

11 35. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
12 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 34, wherein the device further has
13 an associated wireless communications link in data communication with the
14 associated memory and the consumable items each further comprise a wireless
15 communications link in data communication with the electronic memory, and
16 electronically reading the information from the electronic memory of the consumable
17 is accomplished over the wireless links.

18 36. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
19 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 32, wherein the information
20 retaining mechanism of each of the consumable items is an electronic memory, the
21 step of configuring the information retaining mechanism in a manner which uniquely
22 identifies the region comprises writing the region identification information to the
23 electronic memory, and the step of transferring region identification information from
24 the consumable item to the electronic memory within the device includes
25 electronically reading the information from the electronic memory of the consumable
item.

1 37. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
2 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 36, wherein the device further has
3 an associated wireless communications link in data communication with the
4 associated memory and the consumable items each further comprise a wireless
5 communications link in data communication with the electronic memory, and
6 electronically reading the information from the electronic memory of the consumable
is accomplished over the wireless links.

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8 38. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
9 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 32, wherein the device has an
10 associated user interface allowing messages to be displayed to a user and also
11 allowing responses to be input by the user, and the step of declining the consumable
12 comprises notifying the device user of an incompatibility and requiring a specific
response to be input by the user.

13 39. (Currently Amended) A method of regionalizing a manufactured device
14 and consumable items utilized by the device, the device having an associated
15 memory and an associated user interface for receiving user input and displaying
16 output, and the consumable items each having an information retaining mechanism,
17 ~~the manufactured device initially in a non-regionalized condition~~, the method
comprising the steps of:

18 a) providing for distribution within the region consumable items each having
19 the information retaining mechanism configured in a manner which uniquely
20 identifies the region; ~~then~~

21 b) installing in the device a consumable item having an information retaining
22 mechanism configured for the region; ~~and then~~

23 c) transferring the region identification information from the consumable item
24 information retaining mechanism to the memory associated with the device and
25 storing the information therein; and

d) if the device is in a non-regionalized condition, configuring the device in a
regionalized condition based on the transferred region identification information
stored in the memory.

1 40. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
2 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 39, wherein the associated user
3 interface for receiving user input and displaying output is operable to receive input
4 and display out in a plurality of natural languages, and wherein the language used
5 for input and output is selected based upon the region identification information
6 stored in memory.

7 41-51. (Canceled).
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